

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following listing of all claims:

1. (Currently amended) A voltage reference generator comprising:  
a first bipolar transistor configured to amplify a base current of the first bipolar transistor,  
the base current being proportional to an absolute temperature, and  
a resistor coupled to the base of the first bipolar transistor,  
wherein the base current is proportional to a voltage difference between two base-emitter  
voltages of bipolar transistors configured to have different current densities, the  
voltage difference being formed across the resistor.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 1, wherein a reference voltage produced by the voltage reference generator is proportional to a parabolic function of temperature.
4. (Currently amended) ~~The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 1,~~ A voltage reference generator comprising:  
a first bipolar transistor configured to amplify a base current of the first bipolar transistor,  
the base current being proportional to an absolute temperature,  
wherein the first bipolar transistor is a low-beta transistor.
5. (Original) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 4, wherein beta is less than ten.
6. (Original) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 4, wherein beta is less than five.
7. (Original) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 1, wherein a power supply coupled to the voltage reference generator is less than 1.7V.

8. (Original) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 7, wherein a power supply rejection ratio of the voltage reference generator is at least 60dB.

9. (Original) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 1, wherein a reference voltage generated is less than the bandgap voltage of silicon.

10. (Currently amended) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 1, comprising:

a second bipolar transistor, providing one of the two base-emitter voltages;  
~~a resistor coupled to a base of the first bipolar transistor wherein a voltage difference~~  
~~between a base-emitter voltage of the second bipolar transistor and a base-emitter~~  
~~voltage of the first bipolar transistor forms across the resistor; and~~  
a voltage reference node receiving a voltage based at least in part on the voltage difference.

11. (Currently amended) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein a first current is based at least in part on the amplified base current of the first bipolar transistor.

12. (Currently amended) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein the first bipolar transistor provides the other of the two base-emitter voltages, and the second bipolar transistor operates at a current density different from the current density of the first bipolar transistor.

13. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein the first bipolar transistor is a low-beta transistor.

14. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 13, wherein beta is less than ten.

15. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 13, wherein beta is less than five.

16. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

a circuit coupled to the voltage reference node, the circuit generating a first voltage, the first voltage proportional to a complement of the absolute temperature.

17. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

an operational amplifier maintaining effective equivalence of a voltage on a node coupled to the first bipolar transistor and a node coupled to the second bipolar transistor.

18. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 17, wherein a noise component on the voltage reference node is substantially equivalent to noise of the operational amplifier.

19. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein the integrated circuit includes a maximum of one feedback path.

20. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

a current mirror coupled to the voltage reference node, the current mirror mirroring the first current without substantially amplifying the first current.

21. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein the voltage is proportional to a parabolic function of temperature.

22. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 21, wherein the resistor has a value adjusting an effective slope of the reference voltage as a function of temperature.

23. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein a power supply coupled to the voltage reference node is less than 1.7V.

24. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 23, wherein the power supply rejection ratio is at least 60dB.

25. (Previously Presented) The voltage reference generator, as recited in claim 10, wherein the voltage is less than the bandgap voltage of silicon.

26. (Currently amended) A method for generating a reference voltage comprising:  
developing a base current of a first bipolar transistor, the base current being proportional  
to absolute temperature;  
amplifying the base current; and  
generating a reference voltage based at least in part on the amplified base current,  
wherein the base current is proportional to a voltage difference between a base-emitter  
voltage of a second bipolar transistor and a base-emitter voltage of the first  
bipolar transistor, the voltage difference being formed across a first resistor  
coupled to a base of the first bipolar transistor.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 26, wherein the reference voltage is proportional to a parabolic function of temperature.

29. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 28, further comprising:  
adjusting an effective slope of the reference voltage as a function of temperature  
according to a first resistor.

30. (Currently amended) The method, as recited in claim 26, further comprising:  
maintaining substantial equivalence of a voltage on a first node and a voltage on a second  
node with an operational amplifier, the first and second nodes being used to  
develop the base current.

31. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 26, further comprising:  
mirroring the amplified current, the mirroring having an effective gain of one.

32. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 27, wherein the first bipolar transistor is a low-beta transistor.

33. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 32, wherein beta is less than ten.

34. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 32, wherein beta is less than five.

35. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 26, wherein the reference voltage is less than the bandgap voltage of silicon.

36. (Currently amended) The method, as recited in claim 26, wherein a power supply coupled to the voltage reference node is less than 1.7V.

37. (Original) The method, as recited in claim 36, wherein the power supply rejection ratio is at least 60dB.

38. (Withdrawn) A computer readable medium encoding an integrated circuit product comprising:

- a first bipolar transistor;

- a second bipolar transistor;

- a resistor coupled to a base of the second bipolar transistor wherein a voltage difference between a base-emitter voltage of the first bipolar transistor and a base-emitter voltage of the second bipolar transistor forms across the resistor; and

- a voltage reference node receiving a voltage based at least in part on the voltage difference.

39. (Withdrawn--Currently amended) The computer readable medium encoding an integrated circuit product, as recited in claim 38, wherein the integrated circuit product is configured to generate a first current is based at least in part on an amplified base current of the second bipolar transistor, the base current being proportional to an absolute temperature.

40. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing an integrated circuit comprising:

forming a first bipolar transistor;  
forming a second bipolar transistor;  
forming a resistor coupled to a base of the second bipolar transistor wherein a voltage difference between a base-emitter voltage of the first bipolar transistor and a base-emitter voltage of the second bipolar transistor forms across the resistor; and  
forming a voltage reference node receiving a voltage based at least in part on the voltage difference.

41. (Withdrawn--currently amended) The method, as recited in claim 40, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein the integrated circuit is configured to generate a first current is based at least in part on an amplified base current of the second bipolar transistor, the base current being proportional an absolute temperature.

42. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein the second bipolar transistor operates at a current density different from the current density of the first bipolar transistor.

43. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein the first bipolar transistor is a low-beta transistor.

44. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein beta is less than ten.

45. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein beta is less than five.

46. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, further comprising:  
forming a circuit coupled to the voltage reference node, the circuit generating a first voltage, the first voltage proportional to a complement of the absolute temperature.

47. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, further comprising:

forming an operational amplifier maintaining effective equivalence of a voltage on a node coupled to the first bipolar transistor and a node coupled to the second bipolar transistor.

48. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 47, wherein a noise component on the voltage reference node is substantially equivalent to noise of the operational amplifier.

49. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 41, further comprising:  
forming a current mirror coupled to the voltage reference node, the current mirror mirroring the first current without substantially amplifying the first current.

50. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein the voltage is proportional to a parabolic function of temperature.

51. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 50, wherein the resistor has a value adjusting an effective slope of the reference voltage as a function of temperature.

52. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein a power supply coupled to the voltage reference node is less than 1.7V.

53. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 52 wherein the power supply rejection ratio is at least 60dB.

54. (Withdrawn) The method, as recited in claim 40, wherein the voltage is less than the bandgap voltage of silicon.

55. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:  
means for developing a ~~base current of a bipolar transistor, the base current~~ a current  
~~being~~ proportional to absolute temperature;  
means for amplifying the ~~base~~ current; and  
means for generating a reference voltage based at least in part on the amplified ~~base~~ current,

wherein the means for amplifying includes a first bipolar transistor, and  
wherein the means for developing the current proportional to absolute temperature  
includes a resistor coupled to a base of the first bipolar transistor, a voltage  
difference between two base-emitter voltages of bipolar transistors configured to  
have different current densities being formed across the resistor.

56. (Currently amended) The apparatus, as recited in claim 55, wherein the reference voltage varies according to a parabolic function of temperature.

57. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus, as recited in claim 55, further comprising:

means for adjusting an effective slope of the reference voltage as a function of temperature.

58. (New) The apparatus, as recited in claim 55, wherein the means for developing the current proportional to absolute temperature includes the means for amplifying current and the means for amplifying provides one of the two base-emitter voltages of bipolar transistors.

59. (New) A voltage reference generator comprising:

a first bipolar transistor configured to amplify a base current of the first bipolar transistor,  
the base current being proportional to an absolute temperature,  
wherein a base-collector voltage of the first bipolar transistor equals a voltage difference  
between two base-emitter voltages biased at different current densities.

60. (New) The method, as recited in claim 26, wherein the first and second bipolar transistors are configured to have different current densities.